

volunteer for fundraising on behalf of AVHC, and he provided medical service training for members of the Anderson Valley Volunteer Fire Department and Anderson Valley Ambulance Services. Dr. Apfel also continued to pursue professional development, broadening his expertise in palliative care.

Dr. Apfel shared his skills and knowledge with the medical community in the extended region and state through his leadership in the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, and by helping establish the Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) Program. Furthermore, his efforts to ensure appropriate palliative medical care and end-of-life care resulted in improved access to critical information for patients and their loved ones.

Madam Speaker, the breadth and depth of Dr. Apfel's dedication and generosity of service to ensure access to affordable, high-quality, and compassionate health care in Mendocino County, the state, and Nation are unparalleled. He is appropriately regarded as a local healthcare hero, but his service and contributions extend far beyond his community. Please join me in recognizing Dr. Mark Apfel for his near half-century of good work and wishing him the best in his next endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE HUGH REED OF CLAUDE, TEXAS

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize Judge Hugh Reed of Claude, Texas as he gathers with friends, family, longtime colleagues, and members of the community to celebrate his retirement and 70th birthday. After nearly 34 years of distinguished service to the fine people of Armstrong County as County Judge, I know I speak for the whole county when I say we are grateful for his service and wish him well in retirement.

When asked about the best part of the job in a 2015 interview, Judge Reed expressed gratitude to his constituents for giving him the honor to serve them. Representing the people of Armstrong County is a clear passion for Judge Reed, and I am confident that he will be missed in his retirement as he served Armstrong County with diligence and honor.

In addition to his service as County Judge, Judge Reed also served our country in the U.S. Marine Corps for 21 years. He is someone who truly knows what it means to make sacrifices for the betterment of his community and country.

Judge Reed is an incredible leader with an unwavering commitment to West Texas. His legacy will be remembered in Armstrong County for generations to come. I stand here today to thank Judge Reed for his contribution and service to the people of Armstrong County, and to wish him a happy 70th birthday.

ZAYNE YEAGER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Zayne Yeager for his creative and unique drawing, earning him second place in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition.

As a participant in the art show and student at Ralston Valley High School, Zayne created a work of art entitled, “#NoFilter”. It was created with colored pencils and is meant to convey a social-media-centric culture and its impact on an individual.

Zayne spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn new techniques and refine his drawing skills and education in the arts. I appreciate his participation in the competition and the support provided by his teachers at Ralston Valley High School.

Congratulations to Zayne Yeager for his hard work and participation in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition. I am certain he will exhibit the same dedication and character in his future accomplishments, and I wish him the best of luck going forward.

HONORING DAVID BLANCO RAMIREZ

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Border Patrol Agent David Blanco Ramirez.

Mr. Ramirez served in the U.S. Border Patrol for 18 years. While serving in the San Diego Sector's Intelligence Unit during the migrant surge in September 2021, Agent Ramirez passed away in the line of duty.

Mr. Ramirez was born and raised in Chula Vista, California. In 1993, he enlisted in the National Guard, beginning his long career of protecting our country.

In 2003, Mr. Ramirez joined the Border Patrol's San Diego sector, located near his hometown. After 18 years of service for the CBP's forensic office, Agent Ramirez succumbed in 2021 to COVID-19 complications. He contracted the disease working in the 2021 surge in illegal aliens during our country's unprecedented border crisis.

He is survived by his loving wife Rosemary, who has served the San Diego community as a teacher's assistant to children with special needs, as well as his three sons, his eldest following in his father's footsteps and rising to the rank of 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. National Guard.

We owe a debt beyond words to David Blanco Ramirez and his family. I am proud to rise today to honor his service to our nation.

HONORING NON-PROFITS AND
NGO'S FOR PROVIDING CRITICAL
INTERNATIONAL AID TO FIGHT
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, as a proud co-founder of the Global Vaccine Caucus and member of the Special Select Committee on the Coronavirus Crisis, I wish to honor and celebrate the efforts of NGOs who have provided robust international aid and other forms of critical humanitarian assistance to combat the COVID-19 pandemic around the world.

In our nation, rapid advances in vaccine technology and COVID-19 treatment have turned the virus into a more manageable threat. But in countries throughout the world without equitable access to the benefits of these advancements, the economic, social, and public health ramifications of COVID-19 have remained troublingly prevalent; to date, over 6 million deaths resulting from COVID-19 have been reported to the World Health Organization across the world. Furthermore, COVID-19 anywhere is a threat to people everywhere, and efforts to curb the spread of deadly variants abroad helps saves American lives here at home.

In response to the spread of COVID-19, volunteer-based organizations and NGOs have stepped up in a meaningful way to address this crisis, bringing critical support to underserved communities facing untold suffering as a result of the pandemic. For example, according to PR Newswire, the organizations Sewa International, eGlobal Doctors, and American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) partnered to provide “Medical advice for COVID-19 patients from India via telehealth,” with the objective to “keep patients with mild symptoms out of the ER and identify those who need to go to the hospital sooner,” and to “decrease the burden on hospitals to lower panic and decrease misinformation about the pandemic.” Further, these organizations assisted countries like India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Guyana, Iraq, South Africa, Suriname, and Trinidad by sending oxygen concentrators and other necessary COVID supplies. These much-needed humanitarian efforts served people of all races, colors, religions, genders, sexual orientations, and nationalities.

Other organizations have invested in deploying people on the ground in foreign countries to strengthen education and outreach initiatives. As outlined in Borgen Magazine, following the initial outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, the non-profit organization Doctors Without Borders “supported hospitals at the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak” in Italy, and “sent teams to educate populations [in Hong Kong] about the importance of preventing the spread of COVID-19.”

These are just some examples of the tremendous work undertaken by non-profits and NGOs across the United States to expand access to healthcare and fight COVID-19 across the world. In totality, such organizations have raised millions of dollars for COVID-19 relief efforts, distributed hundreds of thousands of